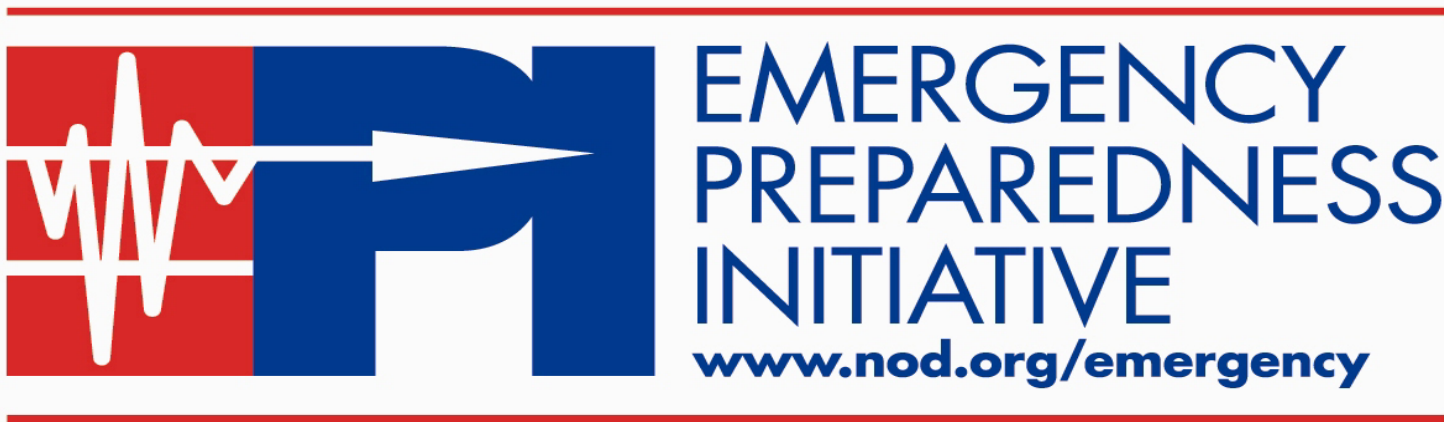


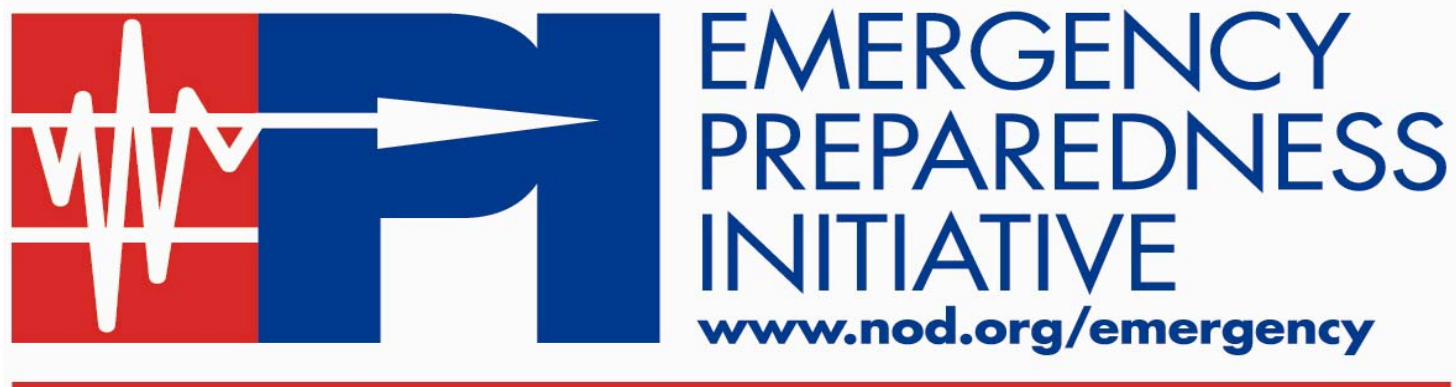
## **Special Needs Assessment 4 Katrina Evacuees (SNAKE) Report Briefing**

**Edwina Juillet, co-Founder  
National Task Force on Fire/Life Safety for  
People with Disabilities  
[representing N.O.D.](#)**



## **SPECIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT 4 KATRINA EVACUEES (SNAKE) REPORT FINDINGS**

<b>Purpose</b>	To capture a “ <b>snapshot in time</b> ” through a representative sampling of experience and observation on the ground.
<b>Field Team</b>	Four teams of three, an emergency management professional a subject matter expert in disability & aging populations & one to collect & transfer data to Analysis Team in D.C.
<b>Deployment</b>	To State Emergency Operations Centers in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Houston, Texas



## **SPECIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT 4 KATRINA EVACUEES (SNAKE) REPORT FINDINGS**

### **Analytical Team**

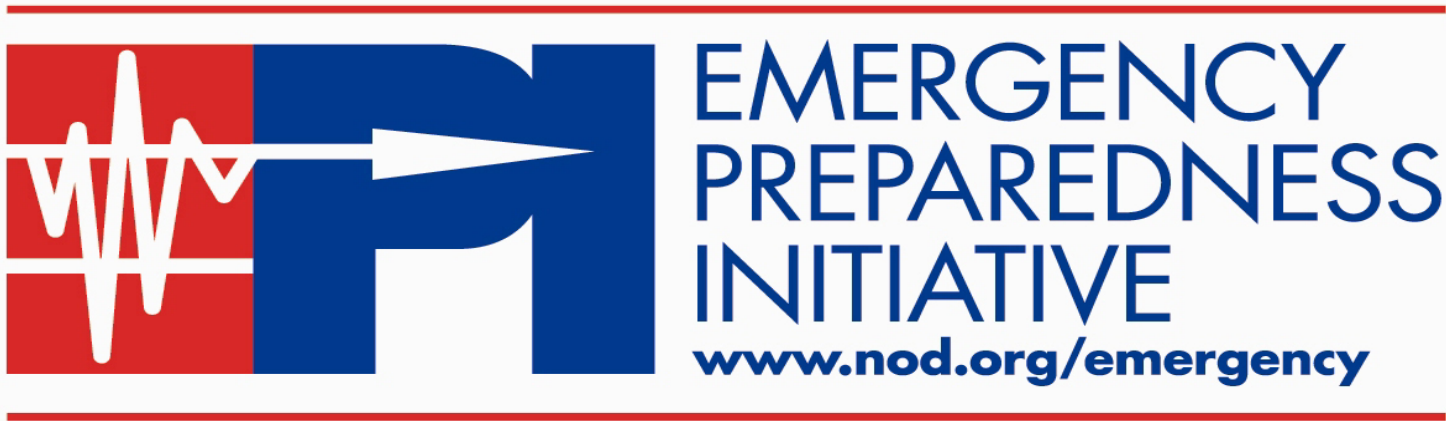
Five subject matter experts experienced in special needs and emergency management.

### **Report Evaluation**

Using an evaluation tool created by the Analytical Team, the ground teams assessed shelter conditions as related to disability and aging populations.

The survey was organized into four major areas:

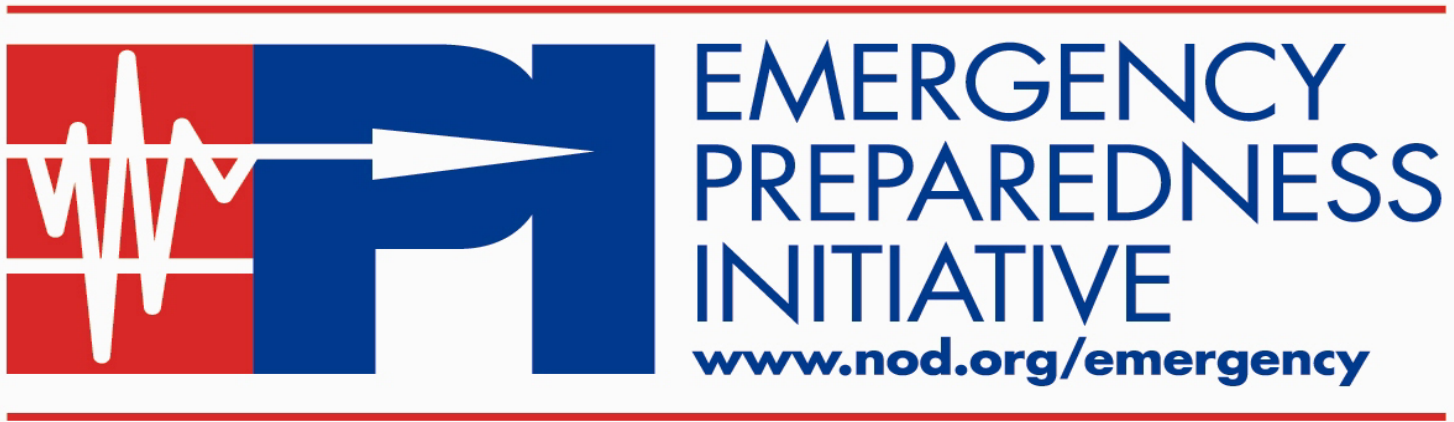
- 1) [sheltering](#)
- 2) [management, policies and training](#)
- 3) [resources &](#)
- 4) [community-based organizations.](#)



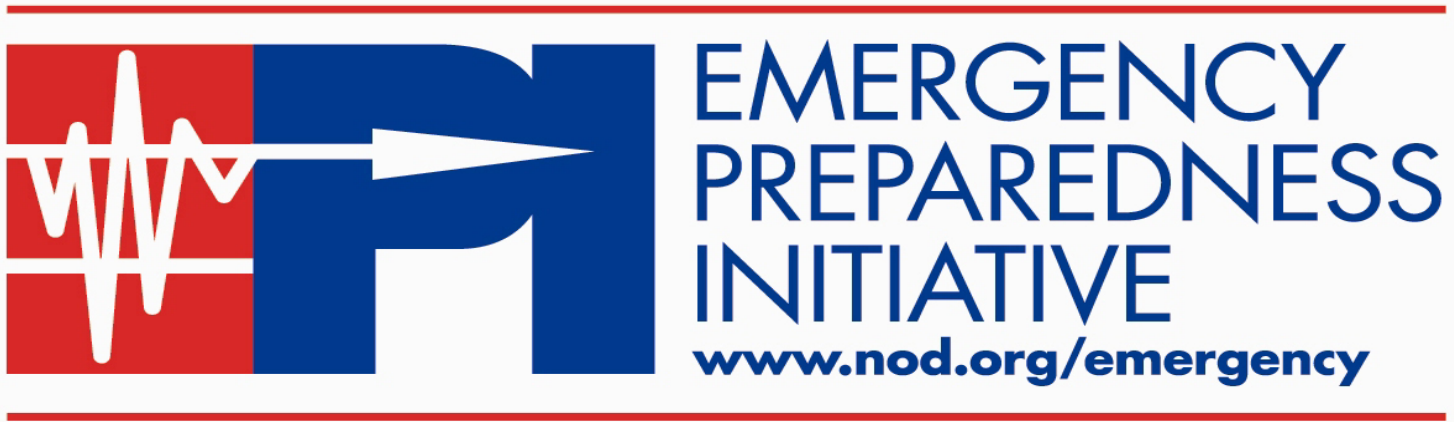
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME**

**INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THIS  
PRESENTATION IS AVAILABLE AT**

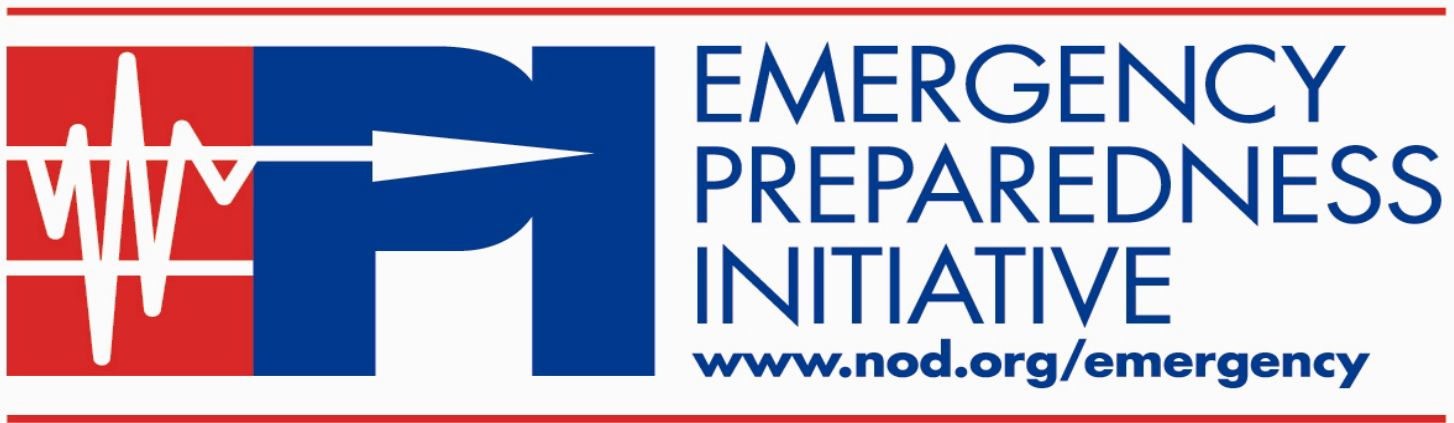
**[www.nod.org/emergency](http://www.nod.org/emergency)**



Assessments through  
**Medical eyes**  
as opposed to  
**Advocacy eyes**

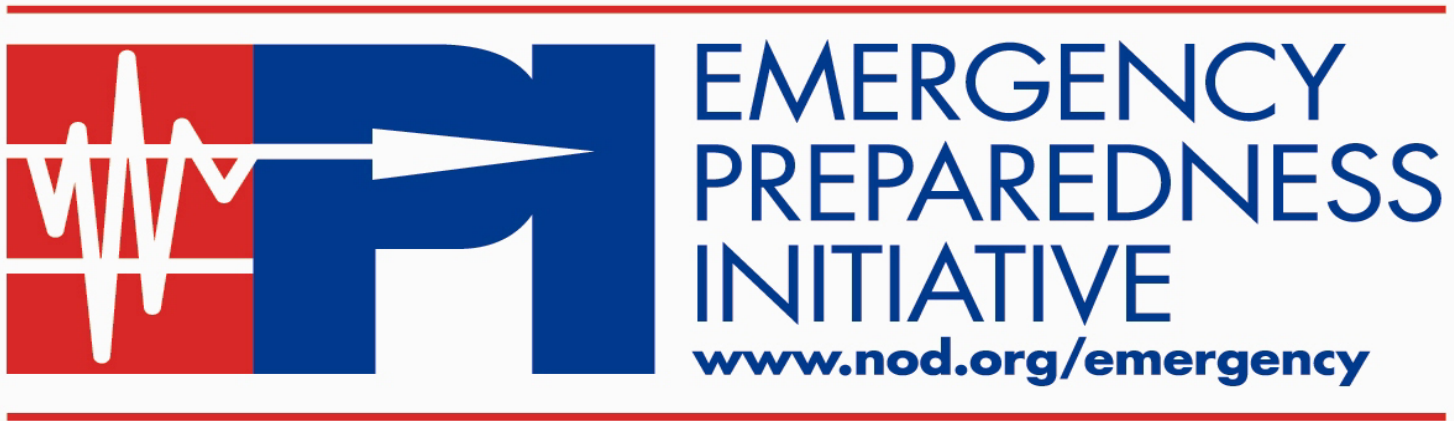


**Keeping families intact:** Some families - so large; question - who goes with whom?; It went something like this, “eeney meeney miney mo,” or “who would go with mamma?”



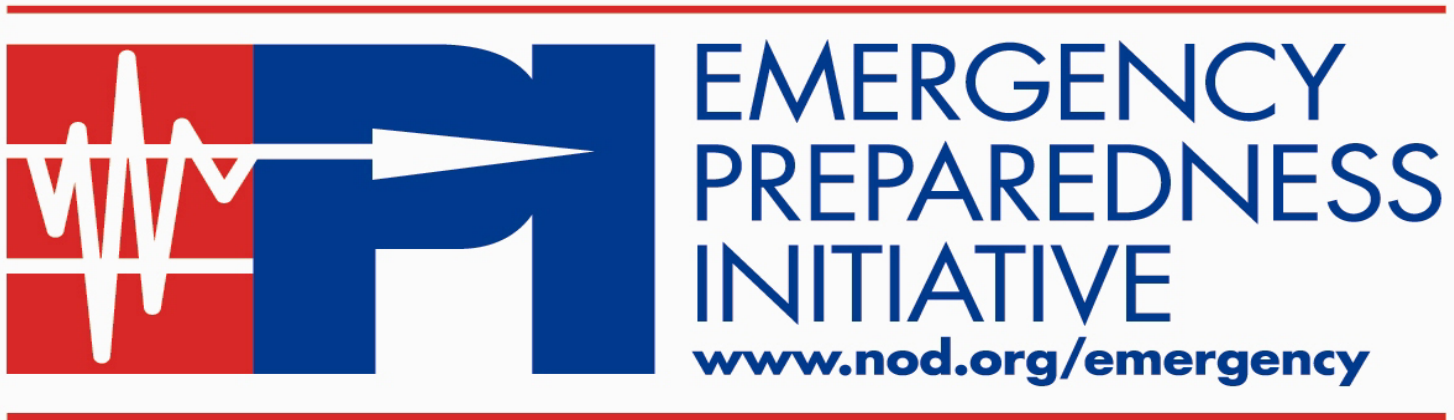
## **Partnering with the CBOs**

“It would have been nice to have someone local provide them (us) with a list of resources in area, rather than taking staff hours on phones all day trying to find equipment.”



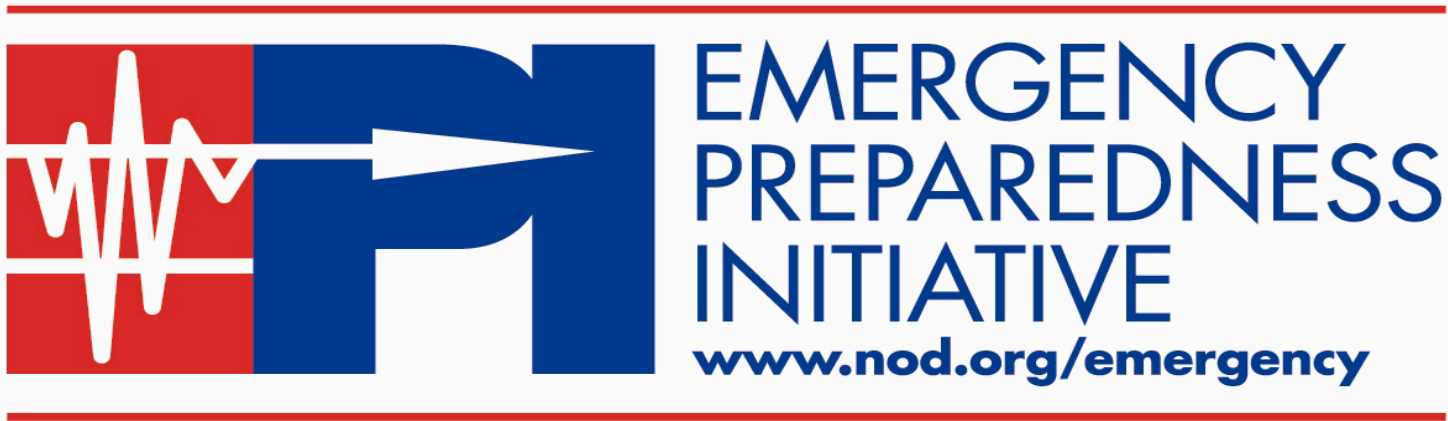
**Selena**, a quadriplegic,  
started in her own home  
in Bayou La Batrie, Alabama.





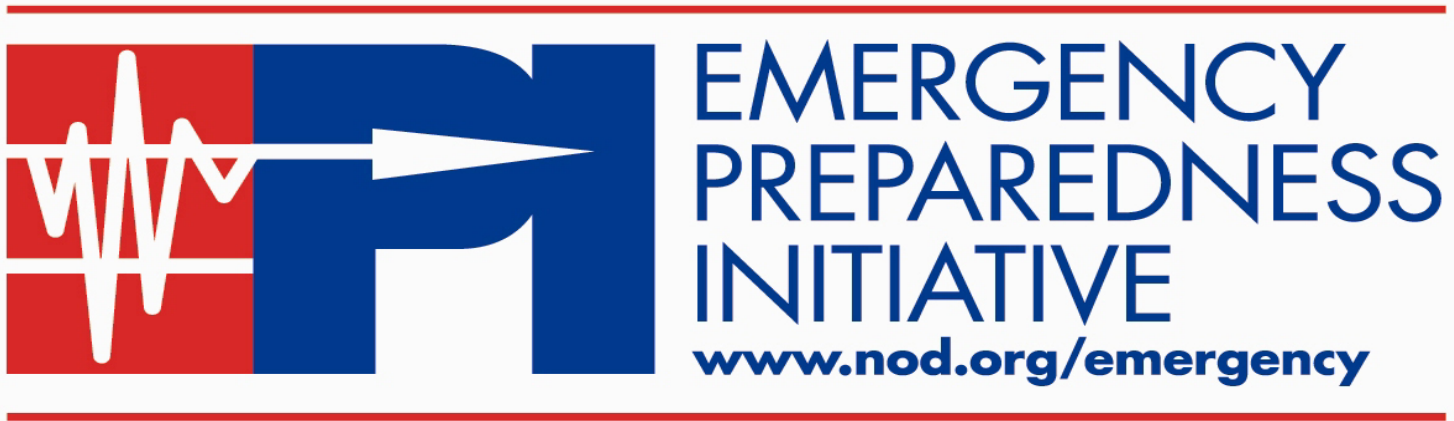
**“Community-embraced  
operation”**

Examples of really successful  
Shelters.....



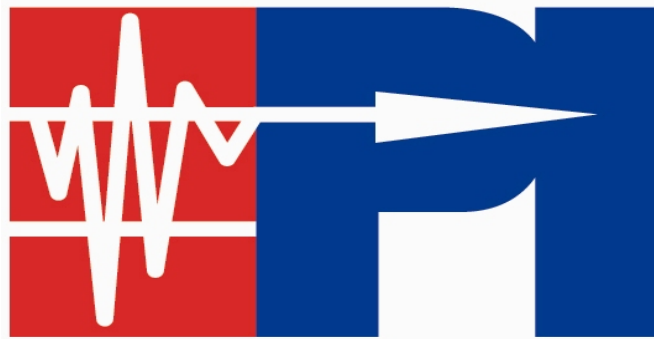
## “Community-embraced operation”

- abandoned & dilapidated school
  - mayor designated
  - no bureaucracy



“Community-embraced  
operation”

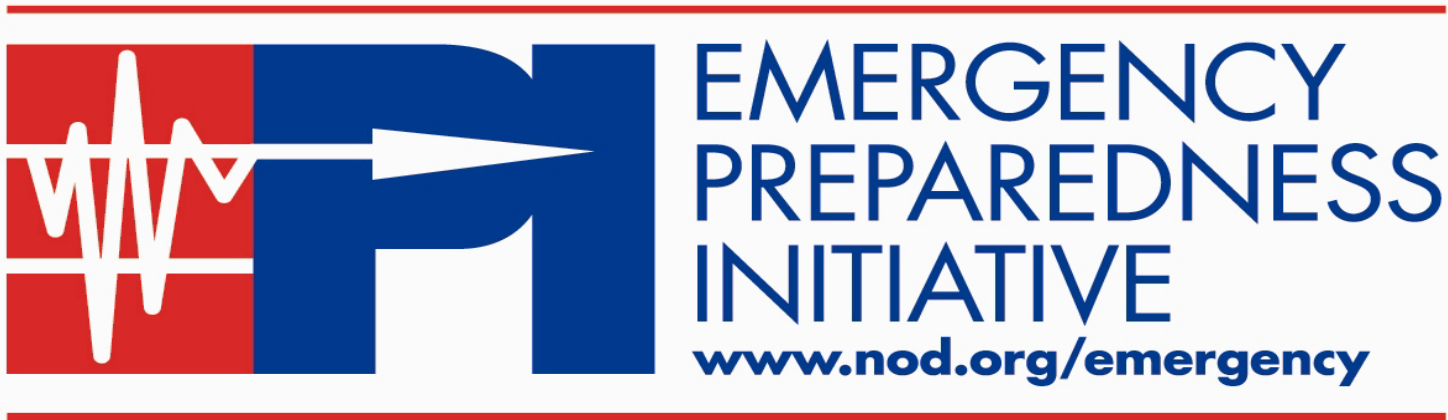
- no bureaucracy



EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS  
INITIATIVE  
[www.nod.org/emergency](http://www.nod.org/emergency)

”not a Red Cross  
responsibility,  
most of it is  
common sense  
anyway”

Discuss or see the pictures?



## **General Populations Shelter or Shelter**

- ★ **A facility selected to provide a safe haven**
- ★ **Equipped to house, feed, provide a first aid level of care**
- ★ **Minimal support services on a short-term basis  
(e.g. Astrodome)**







## General Populations Shelter or Shelter

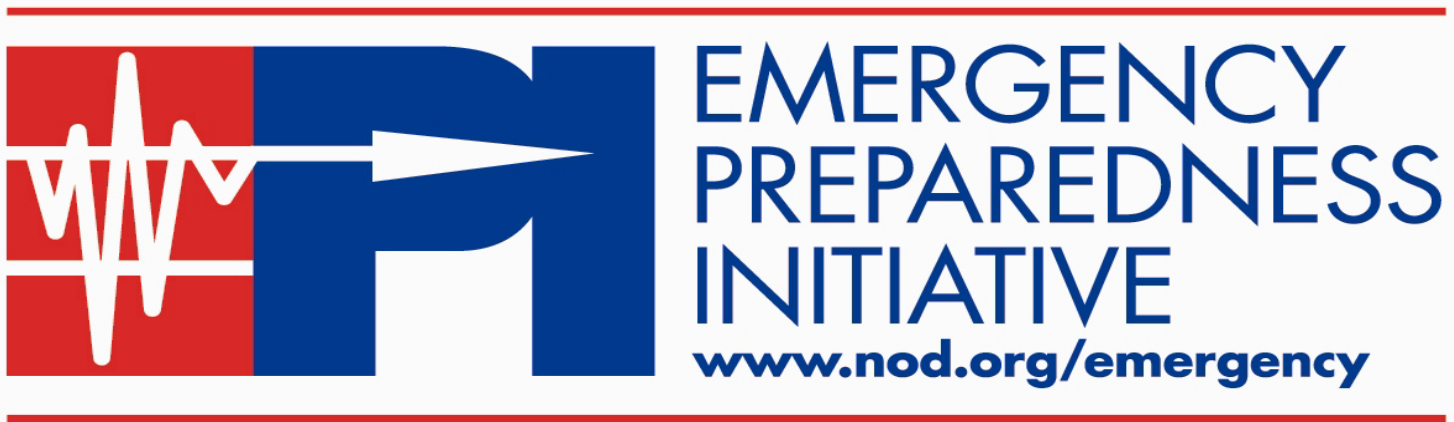




## General Populations Shelter or Shelter







## **Special Needs Shelter or Medical Needs Shelter**

- ★ **Similar to a general population shelter in service, however, can provide a higher than first aid level of care**
- ★ **There is currently no standard or consistency with these types of shelters**



## Special Needs Shelter or Medical Needs Shelter





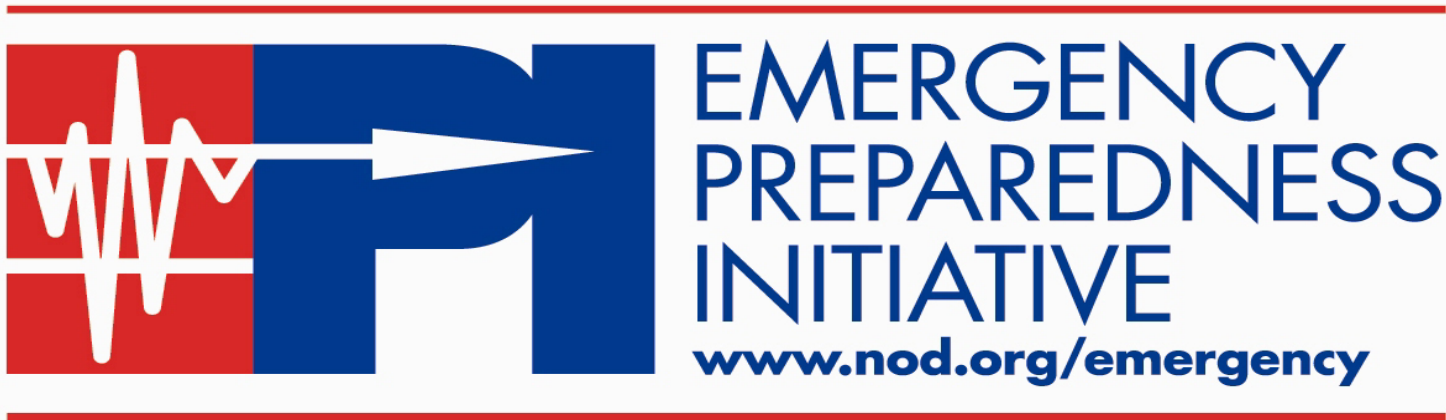








SPECIAL NEEDS  
EVACUEES  
CARE GIVERS



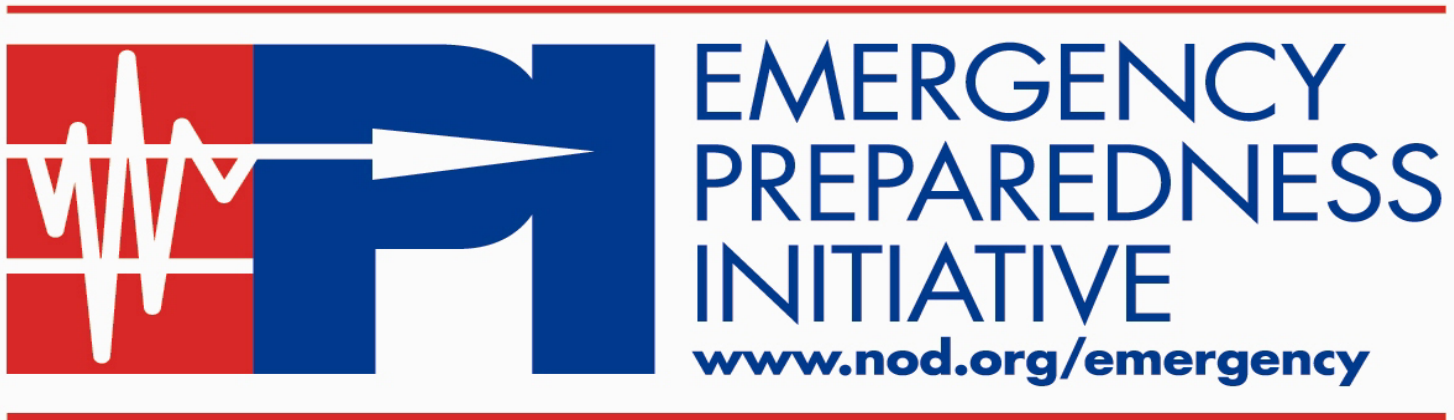
## **Refuge of Last Resort**

- ★ **This is a facility not equipped with supplies or staff like a shelter**
- ★ **It is a place to go as a “last resort”**
- ★ **There is no alternative left in which one can get out of harm’s way**
- ★ **These are often spontaneous**

## Refuge of Last Resort

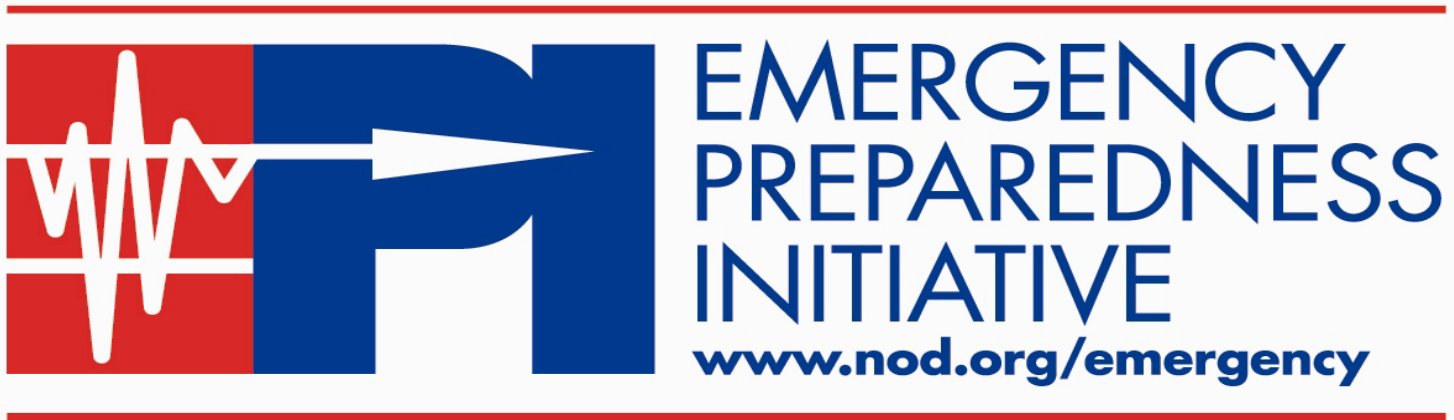






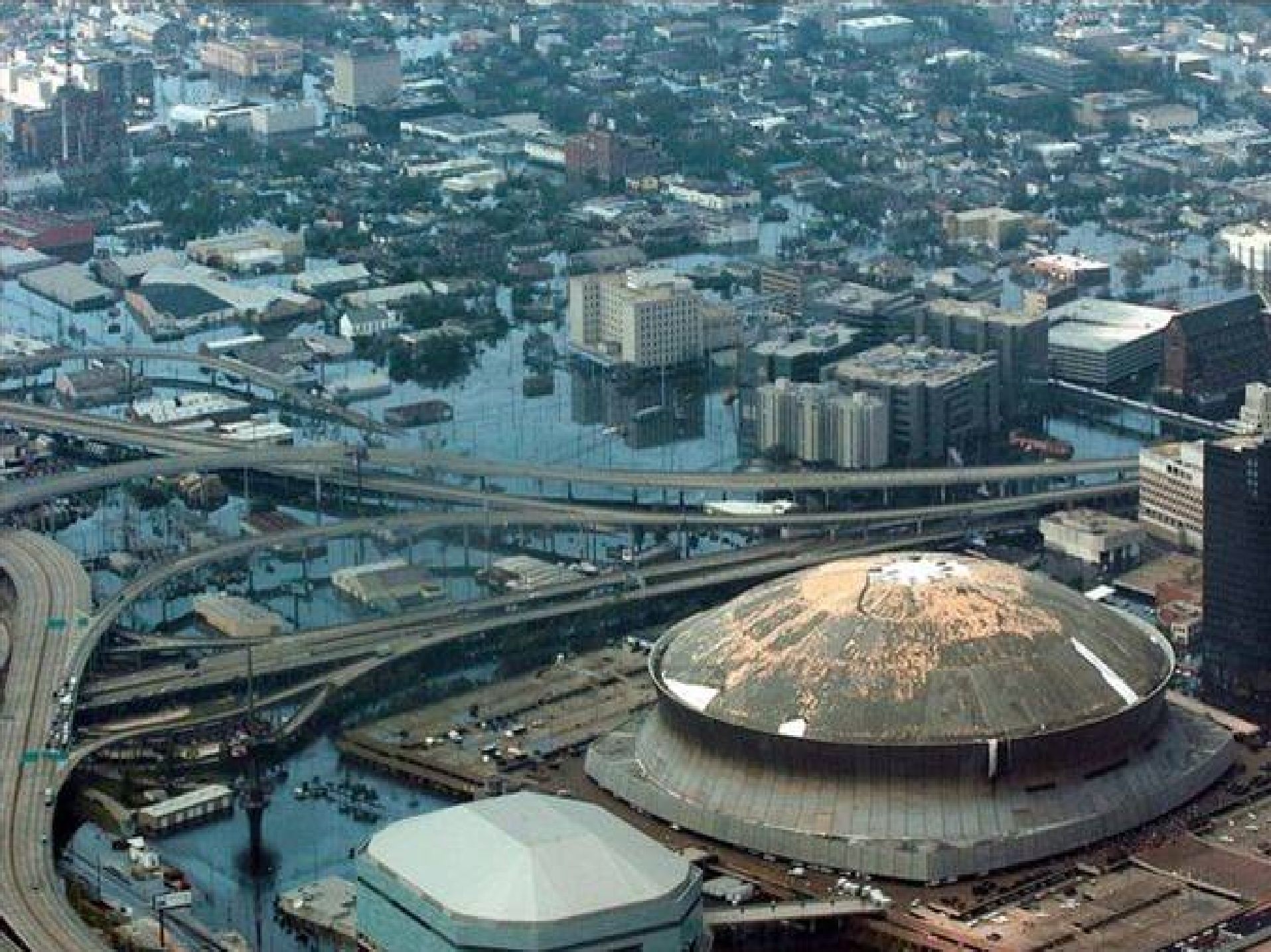
## Refuge of Last Resort

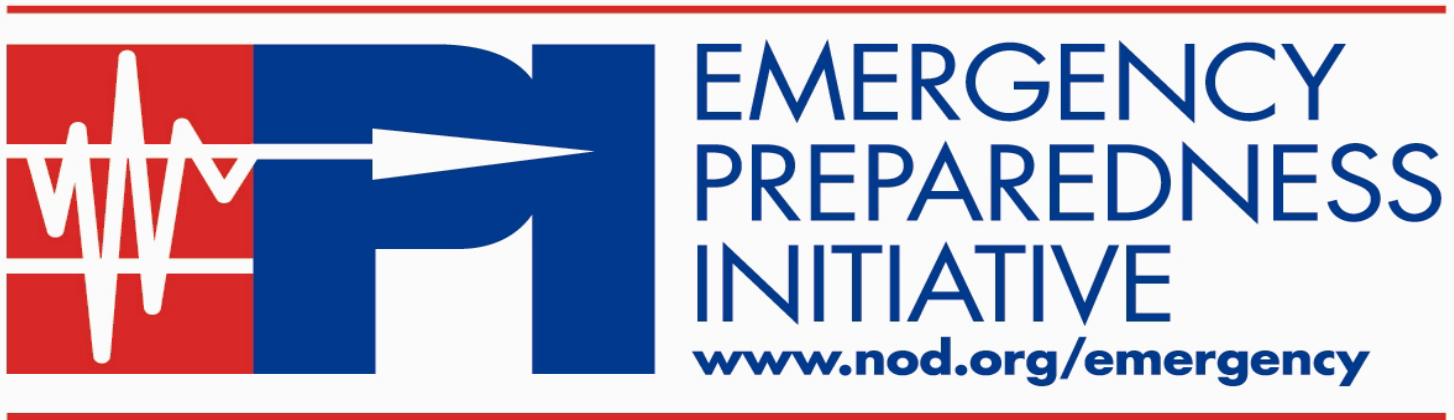




## Refuge of Last Resort







## Refuge of Last Resort

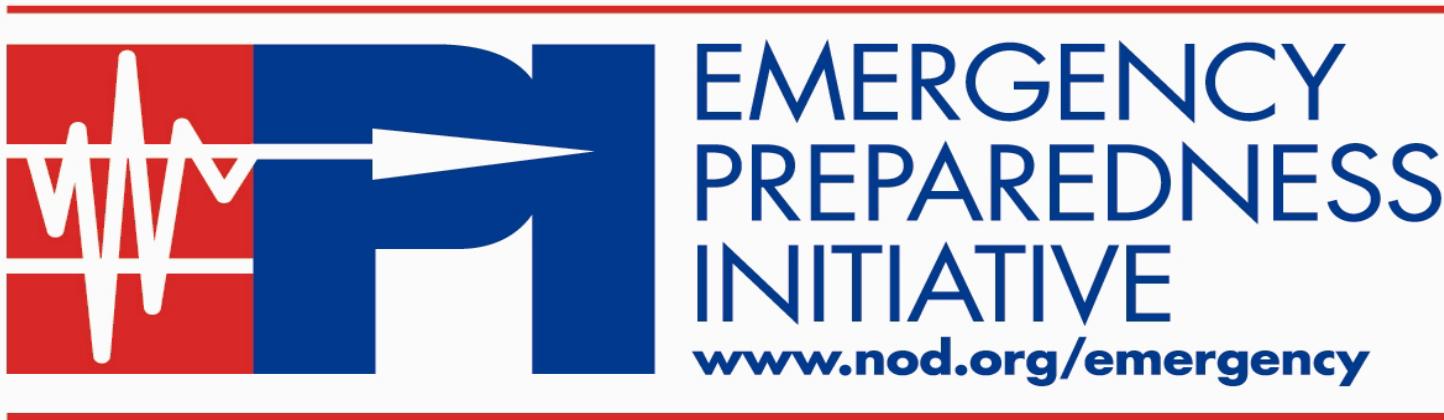










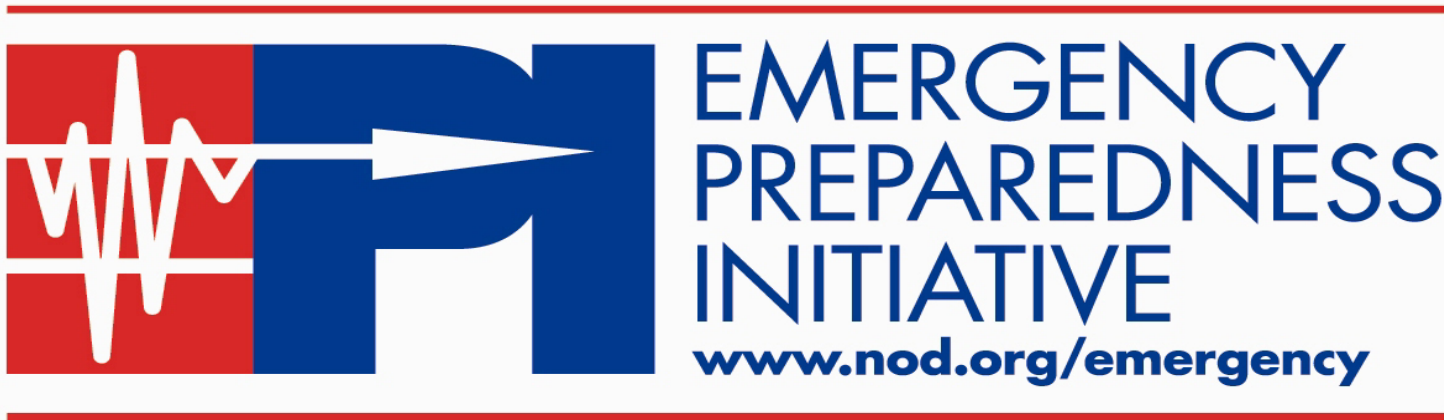


## **SPECIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT 4 KATRINA EVACUEES (SNAKE) REPORT FINDINGS**

**“Extremely Poor Conditions”**  
**“There was major shelter client despair”**

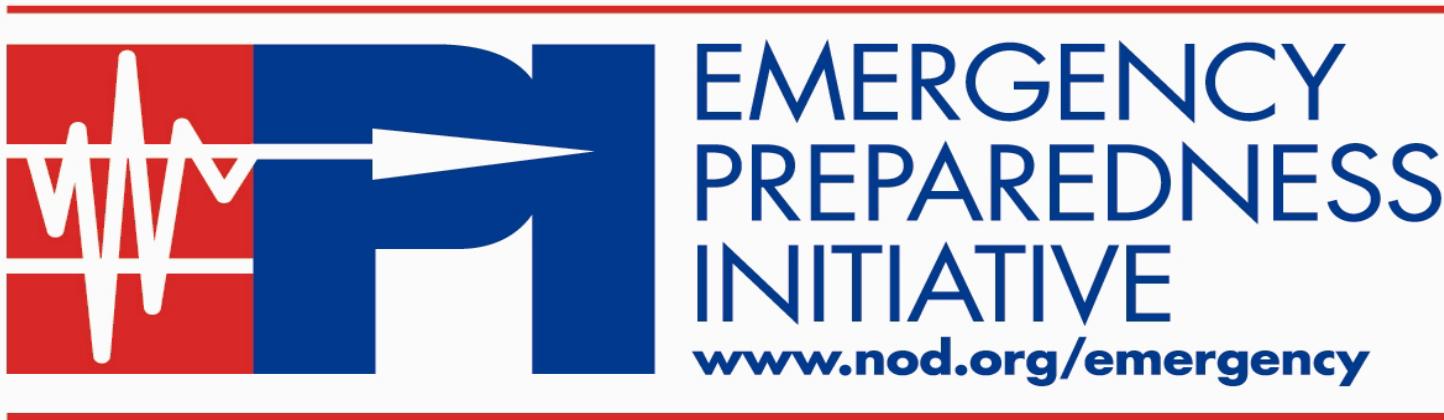
lack of space, overcrowding  
lack of food and drink no privacy areas  
unsafe play area criminal activity  
no mental health or social services on-site  
scores of evacuees outside shelter in tents  
several riots involving evacuees and law enforcement





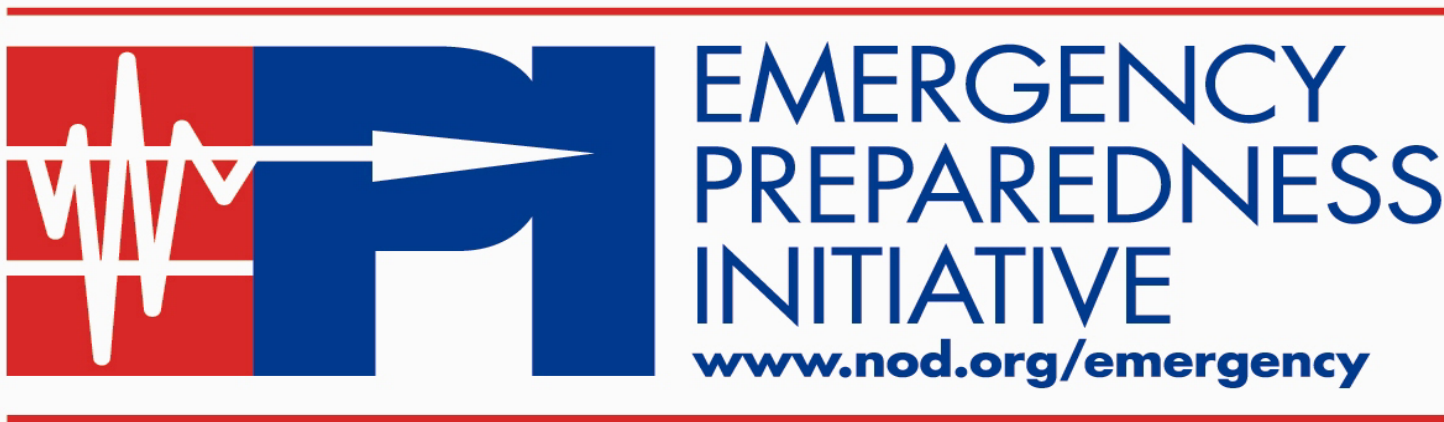
## **SPECIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT 4 KATRINA EVACUEES (SNAKE) REPORT FINDINGS**

- ★ **85.7%** of community-based providers of services for seniors and people with disabilities do not know how to access the emergency management system
- ★ **54%** of the shelter operators did not have any working agreements with disability and aging specific organizations



## **SPECIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT 4 KATRINA EVACUEES (SNAKE) REPORT FINDINGS**

- ★ 50%** of those interviewed had policies, plans and guidelines for accommodations in place prior to Hurricane Katrina
  
- ★ 36%** had someone with expertise onsite to provide guidance regarding appropriate accommodations



## **SPECIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT 4 KATRINA EVACUEES (SNAKE) REPORT FINDINGS**

**Most underserved group: persons were deaf or hard of hearing**

- ★ **Less than 30% of shelters had access to American Sign Language interpreters**
- ★ **80% did not have TTY's**
- ★ **60% did not have TVs with open caption capability**
- ★ **Only 56% of shelters had areas where oral announcements were posted**

If anyone here is

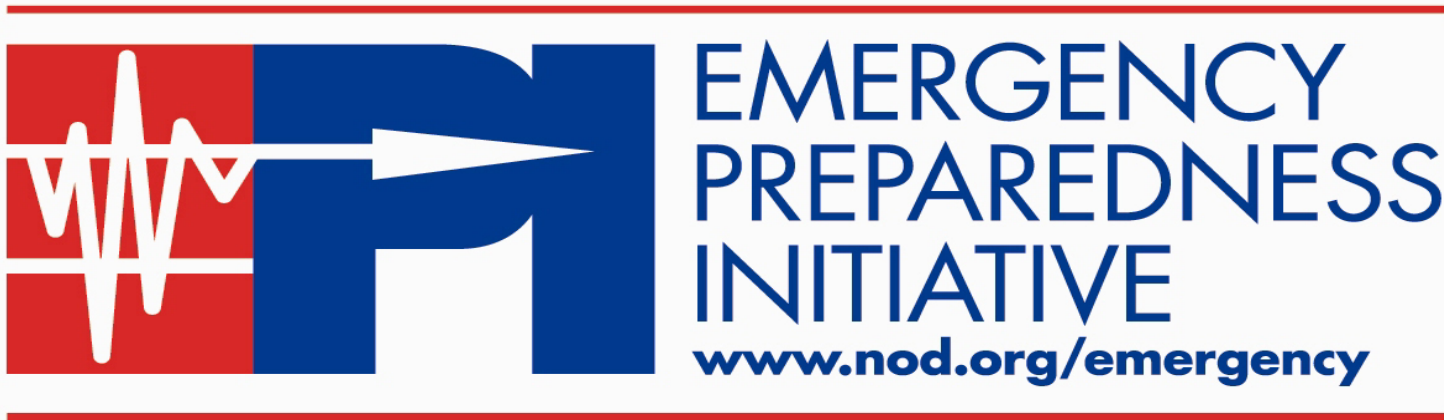
DEAF and needs

assistance, Please Contact

Fr. Jocy Pilola @

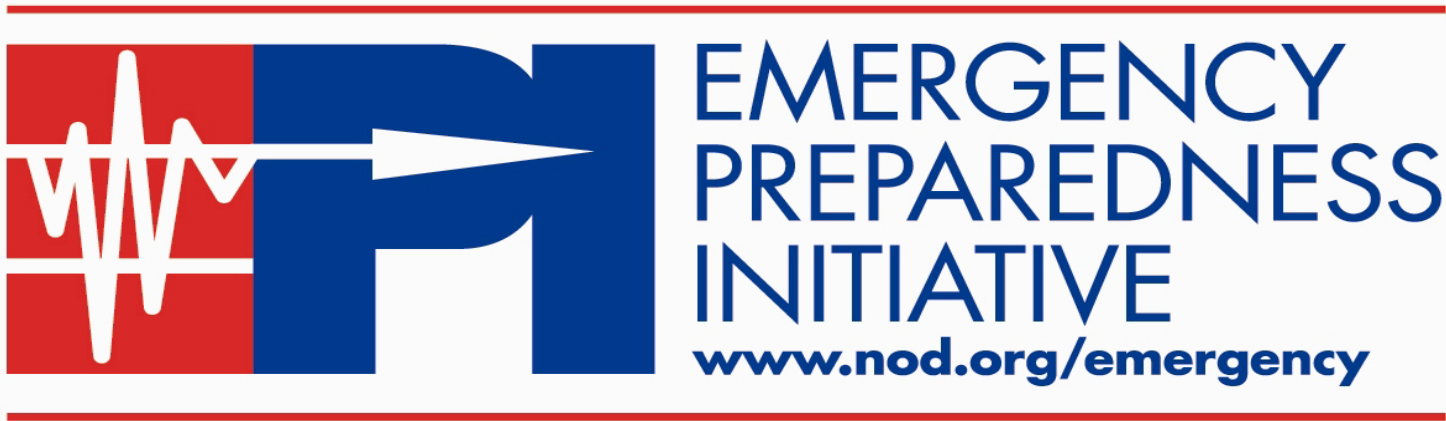
(985) 872-2946





## **SPECIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT 4 KATRINA EVACUEES (SNAKE) REPORT FINDINGS**

- ★ **Emergency professionals and response organizations must seek out and utilize the expertise of disability and aging networks to reduce or eliminate barriers to effective service delivery.**
- ★ **People with disabilities must become familiar with emergency protocol in order to work effectively with emergency responders before, during and after an emergency.**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME**

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